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DE DANSKE BAPTISTERS HISTORIE. Af PASTOR SÖREN HANSEN OG PASTOR PETER OLSEN. Köbenhavn: Baptisternes Forlagsekspektion, 1898. Pp. 199. Kr. 1.75.

THIS history of the Danish Baptists is given in four divisions: (1) "The Time of Persecution, 1839-1849;" (2) "The Time of Extension, 1850-1864;" (3) "The Time of Organization, 1865-1883;" (4) "The Modern Time, 1884-." Rev. Julius Köbner, a Dane who had lived many years in Germany, was the pioneer. In 1838 he found in Copenhagen a company of believers who had embraced Baptist doctrines. They were entirely ignorant of other people entertaining the same views. Having returned to Hamburg, Köbner wrote a pamphlet entitled *The Mode of Baptism and Its Subjects*. This was lithographed and circulated in Denmark. The result was that the believing company in Copenhagen wrote to Hamburg, asking that provision be made for their baptism. In October, 1839, Köbner and Oncken, the Baptist apostle of Germany, went to Copenhagen and baptized eleven believers, and secretly organized the first Baptist church in Denmark. The matter soon became public, and the newspapers and rabble ridiculed and persecuted the church. A month after its organization the members were cited to appear in court. The decision was that the organization was illegal. The members were not permitted to hold meetings nor partake of the communion together, and it was ordered that their children should be baptized and confirmed according to the Lutheran creed. Severe penalties were threatened if they disobeyed. Notwithstanding these enactments, the church grew, and in 1840 twenty-four members were added. Outside Copenhagen several small churches were also organized. The authorities undertook to crush the movement by casting the pastor into prison. One after another the leading brethren were likewise imprisoned. The members were steadfast, however, and their numbers increased. An urgent appeal having been made by Oncken to the English and American Baptists, they separately sent deputations to the Danish government in behalf of their persecuted brethren. Lord Palmerston pleaded their cause in an official document sent directly to the Danish government. Drs. Hackett and Conant, representatives of the American Baptists, arrived in Denmark in 1842. The brethren were released from prison, but their properties had been sold to pay fines. Outside of Copenhagen the churches also suffered great persecution. To administer baptism brought to the

offender imprisonment and ruinous fines. The Lutheran priests were the leaders in this persecution. In 1849 the new constitution guaranteed religious liberty. The Danish Baptists came out of the conflict with six churches and 400 members.

In the second period, 1850-64, new churches were organized and 1,200 converts were baptized.

In the third period, 1865-83, more than 700 Danish Baptists migrated to America. In this way the mother church lost many of her younger and more energetic members. It was also a hindrance to the cause in Denmark that many of the pastors were obliged to earn their bread by manual labor. They were deficient in theological preparation. It became evident that the need of an educated Baptist ministry was urgent.

In the fourth period, 1884-96, this need began to be met. A turn for the better came in 1884, with the meeting of the Baptist conference in Copenhagen. Professor Jensen, of Morgan Park, Ill., was present. Through his influence it was arranged that candidates for the ministry should be sent to America to study at Morgan Park, in the Danish-Norwegian department of the Baptist Union Theological Seminary. Here the younger men were trained for their work, and returned to the mission full of enthusiasm. In 1887 the American Baptist Missionary Union undertook the support of the work in Denmark. Through the assistance of the Missionary Union and the Theological Union the progress has been of the most gratifying character.

Danish Baptists both in Denmark and America will read this history of struggle and triumph with the liveliest interest.

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A HISTORY OF THE BAPTISTS IN THE MIDDLE STATES. By HENRY C. VEDDER. Philadelphia: American Baptist Publication Society, 1898. Pp. 355. \$1.25.

THE "Baptist History Series" is to be completed in five volumes. It is designed to "form a complete history of the denomination down to the time of publication." The volumes on *The Baptists in New England* and *The Baptists in the Western States East of the Mississippi* have already appeared.

Dr. Vedder has drawn his material from the original sources. In this he had no option, since there are no second-hand authorities